LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as set forth below. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendment is found on page 2, line 16; page 3, line 35 and page 10, line 10 of the specification.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for program content identification ~~use in recognizing the content of a media program~~, said method comprising: ~~the steps of:~~

for each of at least two media program subsets, performing the steps of:

filtering each first frequency domain representation of blocks of ~~said~~ a media program subset using a plurality of filters to develop a respective second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks of said media program subset, said second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks having a reduced number of frequency coefficients with respect to said first frequency domain representation, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12;

grouping frequency coefficients of said second frequency domain representation of said blocks to form segments;

selecting a plurality of said segments; and

comparing selected segments to features of stored programs to identify thereby said media program subset; and

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12~~.

determining whether said subsequent media program subset exhibits similarities to said initial media program subset.

2. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein each grouping of frequency coefficients of said second frequency domain to form a segment represents blocks that are consecutive in time in said media program.

3. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said plurality of filters are arranged in a group that processes a block at a time, the portion of said second frequency domain representation produced by said group for each block forms a frame, and wherein at least two frames are grouped to form a segment.

4. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said selected segments correspond to portions of said media program that are not contiguous in time.

5. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said plurality of filters includes at least a set of triangular filters.

6. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said plurality of filters includes at least a set of log-spaced triangular filters.

7. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein the segments selected in said selecting step are those that have largest minimum segment energy.

8. (Currently Amended) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein the segments selected in said selecting step are selected in accordance with prescribed constraints such that their respective center frequencies ~~said segments~~ are ~~prevented from being too close to each other~~ logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.

9. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein the segments selected in said selecting step are selected for portions of said media program that correspond in time to prescribed search windows that are separated by gaps.

10. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein the segments selected in said selecting step are those that result in the selected segments having a maximum entropy over the selected segments.

11. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 further comprising the step of normalizing said frequency coefficients in said second frequency domain representation after performing said grouping step, said normalization being performed on a per-segment basis.

12. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 11 wherein said normalization step includes performing at least a preceding-time normalization.

13. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 11 wherein said normalization is step includes performing at least an L2 normalization.

14. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 further comprising the step of storing said selected segments in a database in association with an identifier of said media program.

15. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 14 further comprising the step of storing in said database information indicating timing of said selected segments.

16. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 1 wherein said first frequency domain representation of blocks of said media program is developed by the steps of:

digitizing an audio representation of said media program to be stored in said database;

dividing the digitized audio representation into blocks of a prescribed number of samples;

smoothing said blocks using a filter; and

converting said smoothed blocks into the frequency domain, wherein said smoothed blocks are represented by frequency coefficients.

17. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 16 wherein said filter used in said smoothing step is a Hamming window filter.

18. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 16 wherein each of said smoothed blocks are converted into the frequency domain in said converting step using a Fast Fourier Transform (FFT).

19. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 16 wherein each of said smoothed blocks are converted into the frequency domain in said converting step using a Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT).

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~use in recognizing the~~ program content identification ~~of a media program~~, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

for each of at least two media program subsets, performing the steps of:

filtering each first frequency domain representation of blocks of ~~said~~ a media program subset using a plurality of filters to develop a respective second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks of said media program subset, said second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks having a reduced number of frequency coefficients with respect to said first frequency domain representation, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12;

grouping ones of said second frequency domain representation to form segments;

storing at least 30 minutes worth of segments;

and

selecting a plurality of said segments.[[;]]

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.~~

22. (Currently Amended) An ~~A~~apparatus for program ~~use in recognizing the~~ content identification ~~of a media program~~, comprising:

a plurality of filters for filtering a first representation of ~~said~~ a media program subset using frequency coefficients to develop a second representation of said media

program subset that has a reduced number of frequency coefficients with respect to said first representation for each of at least two media program subsets, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12;

means for grouping ones of said coefficients of said second representation to form segments;

means for storing at least 30 minutes worth of segments; and

means for selecting a plurality of said segments.[[;]]

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.~~

23. (Currently Amended) An ~~A~~apparatus for ~~use in recognizing the~~ program content identification ~~of a media program~~, comprising:

means for filtering a first frequency domain representation of ~~said~~ a media program subset using a plurality of filters to develop a second frequency domain representation of each of said subsets of said media program having a reduced number of frequency coefficients in said second frequency domain representation with respect to said first frequency domain representation for each of at least two media program subsets, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12;

means for grouping ones of said second frequency domain representation to form segments;

means for storing at least 30 minutes worth of segments; and

means for selecting a plurality of said segments[[;]].

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.~~

24. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~use in recognizing the~~ program content identification ~~of a media program~~, said method comprising: ~~the steps of:~~

for each of at least two media program subsets, performing the steps of:

filtering each first frequency domain representation of blocks of ~~said~~ a media program subset using a plurality of filters to develop a respective second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks of said media program subset, said second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks having a reduced number of frequency coefficients with respect to said first frequency domain representation, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12;

grouping frequency coefficients of said second frequency domain representation of said blocks to form segments; ~~and~~

searching a database for substantially matching segments, said database having stored therein segments of media programs and respective corresponding program identifiers;

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12,~~ and

determining whether said subsequent media program subset exhibits similarities to said initial media program subset.

25. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 24 further comprising the step of indicating that said media program cannot be identified when substantially matching segments are not found in said database in said searching step.

26. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 24 wherein said data base includes information indicating timing of segments of each respective media program identified therein, and wherein a match may be found in said searching step only when the timing of said segments produced in said grouping step substantially matches the timing of said segments stored in said database.

27. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 24 wherein said matching between segments is based on the Euclidean distances between segments.

28. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 24 further comprising the step of identifying said media program as being the media program indicated by the identifier stored in said database having a best matching score when substantially matching segments are found in said database in said searching step.

29. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 28 further comprising the step of determining a speed differential between said media program and a media program identified in said identifying step.

30. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 28 wherein said matching score for a program P_i is determined by $P_i = \frac{1}{z}\sum_{j=1}^{z} f(S'_{j=1} - S_j(P_1))$.

31. (Cancelled) ~~The invention as defined in claim 28 further comprising the steps of:~~

~~repeating said filtering, grouping, searching and identifying; and~~

~~determining, in the event of another match, whether said identified program is the same program determined prior to said repetition or a different program.~~

32. (Original) The invention as defined in claim ~~31~~ 24 wherein said determining step is based on an overlap score.

33. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 32 wherein overlap score is calculated between said program determined prior to said repetition, P0, and said program determined during said repetition, P1, is calculated as

Overlap score=(t_{end}-t_{begin})/(end time of P1-beginning time of P1)

where

t_{end} is min(end time of P0, P1); and

t_{begin} is max(beginning time of P0, P1).

34. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~use in recognizing the~~ program content identification ~~of a media program~~, said method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

for each of at least two media program subsets, performing the steps of:

filtering each first frequency domain representation of blocks of ~~said~~ a media program subset using a plurality of filters to develop a respective second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks of said media program subset, said second frequency domain representation of each of said blocks having a reduced number of frequency coefficients with respect to said first frequency domain representation, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12;

grouping ones of said second frequency domain representation to form segments; ~~and~~

searching a database for substantially matching segments, said database having stored therein segments of media programs and respective corresponding program identifiers;

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.~~ and

determining whether said subsequent media program subset exhibits similarities to said initial media program subset.

35. (Currently Amended) An ~~A~~apparatus for ~~use in recognizing the~~ program content identification ~~of a media program~~, comprising:

means for filtering a first frequency domain representation of ~~said~~ a media program subset using a plurality of filters to develop a second frequency domain representation of said media program having a reduced number of frequency coefficients in said second frequency domain representation with respect to said first frequency domain representation for each of at least two media program subsets, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12;

means for grouping ones of said second frequency domain representation to form segments; ~~and~~

means for searching a database for substantially matching segments, said database having stored therein segments of media programs and respective corresponding program identifiers;

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.~~ and

means for determining whether said subsequent media program subset exhibits similarities to said initial media program subset.

36. (Original) The invention as defined in claim 35 wherein said first frequency domain representation of said media program comprises a plurality of blocks of coefficients corresponding to respective time domain sections of said media program and said second frequency domain representation of said media program comprises a plurality of blocks of coefficients corresponding to respective time domain sections of said media program.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage arranged to store at least 30 minutes worth of segments derived from, and representative of, various media programs, said segments of each respective one of said media programs being stored in said database so as to be associated with a unique media program identifier[[.]];

wherein each of said segments is developed by filtering a first frequency domain representation of said media program using a plurality of filters to develop a second frequency domain representation of said media program having a reduced number of frequency coefficients in said second frequency domain representation with respect to said first frequency domain representation, and grouping ones of said second frequency domain representation for each of at least two media program subsets, said plurality of filters ~~have~~ having center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other substantially in accordance with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.

~~wherein said plurality of filters have center frequencies logarithmically spaced apart from each other with a logarithmic additive factor of 1/12.~~

38-40 (Canceled)

41. (New) The invention as defined in claims 1, wherein at least two of said media subsets are associated with the same media program.

42. (New) The invention as defined in claims 1, wherein at least two of said media subsets are associated with different media program.

43. (New) The invention as defined in claims 21, wherein at least two of said media subsets are associated with the same media program.

44. (New) The invention as defined in claims 22, wherein at least two of said media subsets are associated with different media program.

45. (New) The invention as defined in claims 23, wherein at least two of said media subsets are associated with the same media program.